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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Serial No

Filed

: July 25, 2001

For

: METHOD AND INSTRUMENT...

Dated

: July 25, 2001

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows: **IN THE CLAIMS:** Please amend claim 3 as follows: N 3. (ONCE AMENDED) Method according to claim 1, in which the illumination of the fabric or similar is carried out with single impulses and the acquisition of the images is synchronized with said impulses. Please amend claim 4 as follows:

4. (ONCE AMENDED) Method according to claim 1, in which the fabric or